Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-11 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 PA-01 CEQ-01 EPA-01 NRC-05 /137 W

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R 241930Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3559
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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USEEC USOECD USIAEA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, TECH, PARM, UK

SUBJECT: WINDSCALE REPROCESSING DEBATE

REF: (A) LONDON 2994; (B) LONDON 1381

1. ACCORDING TO AN AUTHORITATIVE SOURCE IN HMG, THE PREFERRED OPTION BEING DISCUSSED WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT FOR HANDLING THE WINDSCALE DECISION IS FOR ENVIRONMENT SECRETARY SHORE TO REJECT THE PLANNING REPORT SUBMITTED BY JUSTICE PARKER. THIS WOULD SIDESTEP POSSIBLE PROCEDURAL DIFFICULTIES WHEREBY PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE BEFORE A DECISION TO PROCEED WITH THE EXPANSION MIGHT HAVE CONFIDENTIAL

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INVALIDATED THE DECISION ITSELF (REF B). BY REJECTING THE REPORT AND THEN LETTING PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE RUN ITS COURSE (LIKELY TAKING SOME TIME), SHORE COULD THEN FOLLOW SOME SORT OF PROCEDURE WHICH WOULD AVOID THE CONTEXT OF A PLANNING INQUIRY, AND THEN TAKE HIS DECISION. THERE IS A PRESUMPTION THAT THE DECISION WOULD STILL BE TO APPROVE THE EXPANSION.

- 2. AN ALTERNATE STRATEGY WHICH HAS BEEN DISCUSSED IS FOR SHORE TO MAKE A FAVORABLE DECISION PRIOR TO PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE. HOWEVER, THE POLITICAL RISKS TO SHORE ARE SEEN AS GREATER FOR THIS ALTERNATIVE.
- 3. OUR SOURCE SAYS THE PARKER REPORT WILL PROBABLY BE PUBLISHED NEXT WEEK.

BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

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Subject: WINDSCALE REPROCESSING DEBATE TAGS: ENRG, TECH, PARM, UK
To: STATE USEEC

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Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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